

Jim



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8, MONTANA OFFICE
FEDERAL BUILDING, 10 W. 15th STREET, SUITE 3200
HELENA, MONTANA 59626

September 22, 2003

David M. Smith
Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway
Manager Environmental Remediation
139 North Last Chance Gulch
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Mr. Smith:

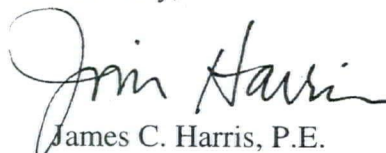
The outline for the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway's ***Request to Modify Groundwater Treatment Operations*** at the BN Somers site has been received and reviewed by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality and EPA.

The outline is approved for use in development of the complete request document with the inclusion of the following information:

1. Section 2.3 Summary of the TI Evaluation. This section should contain a comprehensive discussion of previous efforts to restore the surficial aquifer to the highest use.
2. As long as recovery system wells are bailed to remove accumulated materials on a weekly basis, they should be monitored at the same frequency.

Please prepare a schedule for development and submittal of the draft request. Let me know if you have questions concerning this approval.

Sincerely,



James C. Harris, P.E.
Remedial Project Manager

Sent

cc: L.DeWitt, DEQ



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